

Please correct the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A water-releasing ~~ice-crystal-like-appearing~~ gel for use with plant material, constituted of polyacrylate polymer powder gelled in an aqueous plant nutrient solution with entrapped water-insoluble polyacrylate crystals dispersed therein.
2. (Original) The gel of claim 1 wherein the gel further contains zeolite crystals embedded therein.
3. (Original) The gel of claim 1 wherein the plant nutrient solution is selected from the group consisting of plant-derived extracts and of water-based chemical nutrients.
4. (Original) The gel of claim 3 wherein the plant-derived extracts are from plants selected from the group consisting of Artemesia plants, Rosmarinus officinales, Balsamum, Cismamomium, and Camphora.
5. (Original) The gel of claim 3 wherein the plant-derived extracts are extractions from Artemesia plants.
6. (Original) The gel of claim 5 wherein the Artemesia plants are one of arborescens and tridentata.
7. (Original) The gel of claim 3 wherein the water-based chemical nutrients are N₂-P₂O₅.
8. (Original) The gel of claim 1 wherein about ¼ teaspoon of the polyacrylate polymer powder was added to about 4 ounces of the nutrient solution.
9. (Currently Amended) A method of making a water-releasing ~~ice-crystal-like-appearing~~ gel for use with plant material, that comprises, producing an aqueous plant nutrient solution; and adding sufficient polyacrylate polymer powder to the aqueous plant nutrient solution to create a gel with water-insoluble polyacrylate crystals entrapped therein.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein zeolite crystals are embedded in the gel.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the gel is readily spreadable within the plant-receiving medium.
12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the plant nutrient solution is selected from the group consisting of plant-derived extracts and of water-based chemical nutrients.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the plant-derived extracts are extractions from Artemesia plants.
14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the water-based chemical nutrients include $N_2-P_2O_5$.
15. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein about $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon of polyacrylate polymer powder is added to about 4 ounces of the nutrient solution.
16. (Currently amended) The method of making a water-releasing ~~ice-crystal-like-appearing~~ gel for use with plant material, that comprises, producing an aqueous plant nutrient solution; dispersing zeolite crystals in the solution to absorb the nutrients; and adding polyacrylate polymer powder to the solution to create a gel with the zeolite crystals absorbed therein.
17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the gel is dispersed in plant-growing soil and the volume ratio of soil to zeolite crystals is adjusted ~~to~~ ~~up~~ to about ~~1-03~~ 1:1 to 1:0.3.

Claims 18 through 38 cancelled (for possible further division later).

Please add the following claims depending from the elected claims 1-17.

39. (New) The water-releasing gel of claim 1 wherein the gel is translucent resembling ice translucency.
40. (New) The water-releasing method of claim 9 wherein the gel is translucent resembling ice translucency.
41. (New) The water-releasing method of claim 16 wherein the gel is translucent resembling ice translucency.